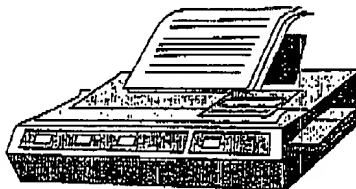


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MESSAGE:**AMENDMENT AFTER FINAL REJECTION AND REQRST FOR WITHDRAWAL OF FINALITY
DESIGNATION AND WITHDRAWAL OF OFFICE ACTION for serial no. 09/131,051*******CONFIDENTIALITY NOTE*****

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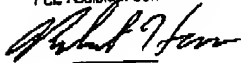
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Attorney Docket No.: 103180-45208


Signed

Robert J. Hess
Name

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applicant: Dwight JAMIESON et al Art Unit: 2153
Serial No.: 09/131,051 Examiner: Tod Kupstas
Filing Date: August 7, 1998
For: MULTI-PROTOCOL LABEL SWITCHING VIRTUAL PRIVATE NETWORKS

Via Fax (703)305-7201
BOX AF -- NO FEE
Assistant Commissioner for Patents
PO Box 2327
Arlington, VA 22202

AMENDMENT AFTER FINAL REJECTION AND REQUEST FOR WITHDRAWAL OF FINALITY DESIGNATION AND WITHDRAWAL OF OFFICE ACTION

Sir:

Responsive to the Office Action dated September 20, 2002, amend the application as follows:

IN THE ABSTRACT OF THE DISCLOSURE

Replace entirely with the appended Abstract

IN THE CLAIMS

Cancel claims 11-14 without prejudice.

Add the new claims 19-22:

19. (Newly submitted) A method of automatically configuring virtual private networks over a shared Multi-Protocol Label Switching (MPLS) network comprising: